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WGOLF Preview: Eagles head to Augusta

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WGOLF Preview: Eagles head to Augusta

Georgia Southern opens the three-day tournament Friday.

Marc Gignac



Jeremy Wilburn

Annie Swords and the Eagles travel to the 3M Augusta Invitational this weekend.

Women's Golf | 3/10/2016 5:13:00 PM

Story Links

[Live scoring](#) | [Pairings](#)

Tournament Name: 3M Augusta Invitational

Dates: March 11-13

Host: Augusta

Course: [Forest Hills Golf Club](#), 6,214 yards, Par 72

Location: Augusta, Ga.

Tee Times and Format: Tee times each day - 9:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. Sunday

Participating Schools (16): Augusta, Coastal Carolina, East Carolina, Eastern Michigan, East Tennessee, Florida State, Furman, Georgia Southern, Illinois, Kennesaw State, Maryland, Memphis, Mercer, Texas A&M, Troy, Virginia Tech.

Georgia Southern Lineup (scoring average)

[Iben Hvass](#) (21 rds, 76.28)

[Ariana Macioce](#) (18 rds, 76.55)

[Ansley Bowman](#) (18 rds, 78.22)

[Annie Swords](#) (12 rds, 79.91)

[Taylor Thompson](#) (15 rds, 81.73)

After a week off from competition, the Eagles play their fourth tournament of the spring as they travel an hour up the road to the ninth annual 3M Augusta Invitational.

Georgia Southern is coming off a 27th place finish (41 teams) at the Kiawah Spring Classic March 1. [Ansley Bowman](#) tied for 53rd out of 216 individuals, and [Iben Hvass](#) tied for 88th.

"After three events in a row, we had a little bit of time to regroup and have focused practices and another qualifier," said Georgia Southern coach [Emily Kuhfeld](#). "We are excited to head to Augusta and face one of the most competitive fields of our season. Our team has made huge strides this spring, and I look forward to another opportunity for them to play their own games one shot at a time."

Hvass leads the team with a 76.28 scoring average and has played in every tournament this season. [Ariana Macioce](#) makes her sixth straight start and averages 76.55 strokes a round with a pair of top-10 finishes. Bowman plays in her seventh straight tournament, and Swords makes her third start of the spring. Thompson makes her second straight start.

The Eagles are paired with Maryland for the first round and tee off hole 10 at 11:10 a.m. Friday.

A first-year program, Georgia Southern was recently named the "sleeper" pick in Golfweek's Sun Belt preview.

The 3M Augusta Invitational March 11-13 at Forest Hills Golf Club features 16 teams for a three-day event with 54 holes of play. Since its beginning in 2006, the Jaguars' home event has maintained a reputation of drawing nationally prominent teams and players to Augusta for one of Division I golf's top events. The tournament dates were moved from the fall to the spring for the 2009-10 season, where it has remained to this day.

Last season in 2015, Coastal Carolina won 15-over par (867) for their second win in Augusta in the last six tournaments (2010). Lena Schaeffner of Coastal Carolina won the individual title with a round three 68 (-3) to end the event at four-under par.

Following this tournament, the Eagles head to Florida for the Bearcat Spring Classic March 25-27.

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